

Largest Denomination

Historian Explains Baptist Rise During Revolution

By W. Barry Garrett

WASHINGTON (BP) — A noted church historian explained to a national gathering here how the obscure Baptists of 1770 became the largest denomination in America by 1800.

Winthrop S. Hudson, a professor at the University of Rochester and Colgate Rochester-Bexley Hall-Crozer Divinity School, addressed the National Baptist Bicentennial Convocation meeting in the nation's capital.

How does one account for the phenomenal growth of the Baptists during the period of the American Revolution, Hudson asked, while other denominations suffered losses, setbacks, and decline?

Hudson gave a five-fold sum-

mary of the reasons for this phenomenal Baptist growth: (1) They had given support to the Revolution; (2) Competition had been reduced; (3) They had an ample supply of aggressive leadership; (4) they were closely in tune with the popular mood; and (5) They had developed a sense of mission and destiny that was related, not only to the gospel, but also to the emerging nation.

During the 30 years of the revolutionary period, Hudson pointed out, most American churches, including Presbyterians, Congregationalists, Episcopalians, and Quakers, complained grievously about their losses. On the other hand, Baptists during this same period were experiencing "a sweeping surge of

growth," and emerged "with twice as many adherents as the next largest denomination."

The Baptist approach to religion, the historian pointed out, their passion for freedom, their emphasis on individual responsibility to God, their insistence on a regenerate church membership, and their form of church government (local church autonomy) put them into a most favorable position at this period in history.

The American Revolution was waged against oppressive political power from abroad. At the same time Baptists were in the midst of protesting oppressive ecclesiastical powers that developed during the Colonial period. Baptists thus combined their

drive for religious freedom with the Colonists' battle for political freedom, and they became ardent supporters of the Revolution, Hudson observed.

At the same time, he said, the other major religious bodies sought to hold on to their position of established power and thereby lost their hold on the populace. Combining this stance of the established religious order with the force of the Great Awakening, Hudson pointed out that large numbers of laity and religious leaders from other denominations flocked into the Baptist fold.

This new surge of membership gave the Baptists a new and competent supply of leadership that was dedicated to religious freedom and was in tune with the

popular mood to throw off the shackles of oppression, he said.

It was into this historical context that Isaac Backus moved to become one of the most influential persons to formulate Baptist views and influence in the emerging nation. "It was Backus more than anyone else," Hudson said, "who infused the Baptists of New England with a new sense of mission, purpose, and destiny."

"During the decade prior to 1770, Backus was busy fashioning what can only be described as a propagandist coup," he continued. "In doctrine, church government, and especially in their defense of religious liberty, Baptists were the faithful children, the loyal descendants of

those who had fled oppression in their native land to establish a haven of liberty in the American wilderness."

The clear inference of the emphasis given by Backus was that Baptists provided the central thread, the continuing witness, the true succession in the story of New England, Hudson concluded. The Baptists of New England during this revolutionary period combined their evangelistic fervor with a larger sense of mission to influence the political order of the emerging nation, Hudson pointed out. In this way, they emerged from relative obscurity in 1770 to become the largest religious group in America by 1800, he said.

Evangelism Conference

February 2-4, 1976

Broadmoor Baptist Church

Monday Evening

Roy Collum, Presiding

6:30 Music Witness—Mississippi Singing Churchmen and Mississippi Singing Women
Congregational Singing—Edwin McNeely
Prayer—David Grant
Choral Witness—Music Ministry, Broadmoor Baptist Church, Jackson, J. M. Wood, Minister of Music

7:15 Proclamation—Levon Moore
7:30 Book Store Ministry
7:35 Announcements and Program Theme—Roy Collum
7:50 Bible Study—Huber Drumwright
8:25 Congregational Singing—Edwin McNeely
Choral Witness—Music Ministry, Broadmoor Baptist Church
8:55 Message—Franklin Pollard
9:25 Benediction—Delbert McAtee

Tuesday Morning

Chester Vaughn, Presiding

9:00 Music Witness—Janet Erwin, Organist, Edwin Sudduth, Pianist and Rita Wood
Congregational Singing—Tom Larrimore
Prayer—Harrison Weger
9:30 Proclamation—Bill Stewart
9:35 Book Store Ministry
9:40 Congregational Singing—Tom Larrimore
9:45 Bible Study—Huber Drumwright
10:30 Congregational Singing—Tom Larrimore
Vocal Witness—R. L. and Beth Sigrest
10:40 Message—E. S. (Andy) Anderson
11:40 Benediction—James Williams

Tuesday Afternoon

Roy Collum, Presiding

1:30 Music Witness—Janet Erwin, Organist, Edwin Sudduth, Jan and Tom Larrimore
Congregational Singing—J. B. Betts
1:45 Prayer—Billy McKay
1:50 Proclamation—Beverly Tinnin
2:05 Vocal Witness—R. L. and Beth Sigrest
2:10 Bible Study—Huber Drumwright
2:35 Congregational Singing—J. B. Betts
2:50 Message—Roy Edgemon
3:20 Congregational Singing—J. B. Betts
Vocal Message—Myrna Loy Hedgepeth
3:40 Message—Peter McLeod
4:10 Benediction—G. F. (Pat) Bufkin

Tuesday Evening Mississippi College

Earl Kelly, Presiding

6:45 Musical Meditation—Naomi Muncie, Organist, Billy Hubbard, Pianist
6:55 Welcome to Mississippi College—Robert Wall
Visual Presentation of Christ—Sam Gore
Congregational Singing—Tommy Spigener
Prayer Period—Robert Wall
Vocal Witness—Larry Miller
7:15 Message—Lewis Nobles
7:30 Book Store Ministry
7:35 Bible Study—Huber Drumwright
8:20 Congregational Singing—Tommy Spigener
Choral Witness—Singing Chetaws of M. C., Jack Lyall, Director
8:45 Message—S. M. Lockridge
9:15 Benediction—Phillips McCarty

Wednesday Morning

Roy Collum, Presiding

8:45 Music Witness—Janet Erwin, Organist, Edwin Sudduth, J. B. Betts
Congregational Singing—Nan Grantham
9:00 Prayer—Joe Ratcliff
9:05 Proclamation—James Street
9:20 Congregational Singing—Nan Grantham
9:25 Bible Study—Huber Drumwright
10:10 Congregational Singing—Nan Grantham
10:15 Message—Roy Edgemon
10:45 Congregational Singing—Nan Grantham
Vocal Message—William Welch
10:55 Message—Peter McLeod
11:25 Season of Prayer—Dean Puckett
11:40 Amen

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

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Seven States

Plans Laid To Double Baptist Work In North Central Area

INDIANAPOLIS (BP) — Final plans were made at a meeting here for the initial phase of an effort to double the number of Southern Baptist churches and members in seven north central states during the 1977-1990 period. The meeting was attended by approximately 150 Baptist leaders from the seven states involved

and several agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The seven states — Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin — now have 1,784 churches.

The proposed "North Central Missions Thrust" will seek to double this number, and also double the number of members of

churches and church organizations, the number of mission chapels, and the number of baptisms.

At the meeting in Indianapolis, a calendar was presented for the first four years of the North Central Mission Thrust, noting emphases for this initial phase. One of the executive sec-

retaries from the involved state Baptist conventions will serve as president each year.

Planners designed 1976 will be a year of awareness. The communications committee is made up of state paper editors of the north central states, with Alvin Shackelford, editor of the Indiana Baptist, serving as chairman. E. Harmon Moore, executive secretary of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana, will be president this year.

Finding and enrolling prospects will be the emphasis in 1977, using the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's new Action Sunday School Enrollment Plan. State Baptist Sunday School directors will lead the drive with Lew Reynolds, Indiana Baptist convention Sunday School director, serving as chairman and James Smith, Illinois Baptist Convention executive secretary, as president.

Church extension will be the 1978 focus, with Charles Chaney, Illinois Baptist convention missions director, as chairman, and Robert Wilson, Michigan Baptist convention executive secretary, as president.

Evangelism will draw the main emphasis in 1979. Chairman will be Jim Coldiron, Michigan Baptist convention evangelism director, with Ohio Baptist convention executive secretary Ray Roberts, as president.



Anderson



McLeod



Edgemon



Drumwright



Lockridge

William Carey Homecoming To Emphasize Bicentennial

William Carey College has announced the HOMECOMING, 1976, will be held on the Hattiesburg campus on Saturday, January 31. All alumni throughout Mississippi and surrounding states have been invited to participate in a special day - long bicentennial emphasis.

Tommy King, president of the William Carey College Alumni Association, said that festivities will begin at 10:30 a.m. with registration and coffee in the lobby of the new Thomas Business Administration Building.

At 11 a.m. the annual business meeting for all alumni is scheduled for the Kreage Room, adjacent

to the reception center. President King will preside with the assistance of reports from members of the 15-member Alumni Executive Committee. New officers for 1976 will be announced.

The annual HOMECOMING luncheon will be served at 12:30 in Wilkes Dining Hall where a patriotic theme will be carried out. Vice-president A. V. Windham is chairman of the homecoming committee. The Carpenter's Wood, Carey's outstanding and popular singing group will perform. Dr. Ralph Noonkester, president of the college, will make the "Outstanding Alumnus of the Year" award and a plaque will

be presented to the class with the largest attendance record.

President and Mrs. Noonkester will honor the "Outstanding Alumnus" at a reception for all guests at the President's Home, adjacent to the campus from 3-4 p.m.

Mississippi Church Staff Salary Study Is Launched

A Church Staff Salary Study by a committee composed of lay members of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board begins this month. The members of the committee, appointed by Dr. Harold Kitchings, president of the Convention Board, are Gene Triggs, Yazoo City, chairman, Dr. James Gatewood, Columbus; Mrs. Charles Lewis, Meridian; Bobby Kirk, Doddsville; and Powell Ogletree, Hattiesburg.

Dr. Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer has said, "Such a survey will be very beneficial to the churches of our convention." Every year at budget-making time so many calls for church staff salary information come in that it was felt

Staff Relations Workshop

Is Feb. 16-18 In Jackson

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

EDITORIAL

The Mississippi Baptist Medical Center

Mississippi Baptists have a new hospital. . . no, a new Medical Center. The ribbon cutting for the new facility for the Baptist Hospital will be next Sunday, Jan. 25. Patients will be moved to the new building on Feb. 1.

Actually the Mississippi Baptist Hospital long has been a "medical center," but now the name has been changed. Henceforth the institution will be known as the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center.

Mississippi Baptists have been in the hospital ministry for more than sixty years. The hospital in Jackson came into Baptist hands in 1911 and opened a new building in 1914. Memorial Hospital in Memphis, owned jointly by Baptists of Mississippi, Arkansas and Tennessee, was chartered in 1907 and opened in 1912.

The thrilling story of the Baptist Hospital in Jackson is told elsewhere in this issue of the Record so we do not need to repeat it here. We simply can add that from the day Baptists acquired the little institution back in 1911 down to the present hour, they have been engaged in an ever enlarging ministry in the name of Christ. The record of those decades of medical service, and the glorious advance which has been made is a thrilling story, revealing God's leadership and blessing all the way.

This ministry has reached a new peak in the planned opening on January 25, of one of the newest and finest medical centers to be found in the South. There are a few such institutions which are larger but certainly none can be finer or more modern. The center has the newest equipment and latest provision for efficient medical service, that is available in the medical world today.

One is overwhelmed simply in walking through the new plant. Everything about it is big. It would be easy to get lost on almost any floor, except that planned directional systems will make it easy for a person to find his way around. Read some of the statistics and stand in awe! Six hundred beds, with another hundred in the extended care unit; nineteen operating rooms; specialized sectional areas for almost any major medical need; automatic and semi-automatic equipment that is breath-taking; a telephone sectional number which will allow direct dialing to the patient rooms; hundreds of staff doctors; more than 1200 employees. . . We could go on and on.

We have toured the building twice with staff personnel. On our first visit we spent almost three hours just looking, yet we did not visit all floors. We found that one

could not see it all on one visit. We marvelled and thanked God that such a facility could be built in the name of Jesus Christ, and that it will long stand as a living monument to the Christian concept of a healing ministry.

Mississippi Baptists can be proud of this new center. They can thank God for the vision and labor of the trustees and administration in planning and bringing to completion such a tremendous institution, and for providing for the people of this city and state, and even for those far beyond Mississippi's borders, a center where they can receive the finest medical care, in an atmosphere that is Christian, and in a spirit of love.

We congratulate the Board of Directors, Mr. Paul Pryor, Administrator, the administrative staff, and all of the many persons who have labored so hard and so long to make this great hour possible.

Postal Problems

Having postal problems? Thirteen cent postage; higher parcel post rates; other increases? Yes, we have them too, and we know how you feel. Yet, we have an extra one, which you can help us to solve. We are requesting your assistance.

If you plan to move, please tell us in advance. If every subscriber did this, it would save us almost \$3,000 per year.

When you move or change addresses, the post office does not try to deliver the paper, but clips the address and returns it to us. For each of these returned labels we have been paying 10c, and they have cost us about \$100.00 per month. Under the new postal rates they will cost 25c, and we cannot refuse them. If the number received continues as in the past, our costs will be about \$250.00 per month. This is why we are asking your help.

If you plan to move, please send us the label from your paper, and tell us your new address. If you still will be attending the same church, we will correct the address, and you will not miss an issue. If you are moving to another church field, tell us the church you expect to attend and we will remind them to put your name on the list as soon as you join.

Thank you for helping us solve a postal problem, while at the same time keeping yourself from missing a single issue of your Record.

Old Baptist Records Needed

A history of the Baptist Record is in preparation, in connection with the one hundredth anniversary of the publication which comes in February, 1977.

One segment of Baptist Records is missing, and we have not discovered any place where they have been kept. The issues of the years from 1880 to 1897 inclusive are lost. Bound copies of the issues of the first three years (1877-1879) are in the library of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., and microfilms of all of those are in the Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission depository in the Mississippi College library. Bound copies of all issues from 1898 to the present are in the depository, and we also have bound copies from 1940 to the present in the Baptist Record offices.

Somewhere we have heard reference to a fire at the Baptist Record offices about the turn of the century that destroyed the files, but we

have not been able to authenticate this. Now, we are seeking, even single copies of any issue in the period 1880 to 1897, and if someone had a bound copy or file of any of those years it would indeed be a find. Furthermore if anyone has letters, books, or other material relating to the Record in that period, they would be invaluable to us.

We are not asking that these materials be given to us, unless the person possessing any of them should desire to deposit them with the Historical Society for permanent protection, but even a loan of any such material would be most helpful right now.

Remember the dates (1880-1897) and write us or call us if you have any Baptist Records or material related to the paper for that period. We have all of the others, so it is only this special period which is needed.

Thank you in advance for any assistance you may be able to give us.

Gallant Lady

To "Deck Herself Out"

(Continued from page 1)
plishments of this "gallant lady" evokes deep and moving sentiments in the hearts of thousands of us who have been patients there or whose families and friends were cared for there.

Mine is but one of multiple thousands of tributes which could be paid; so, hoping that many can identify with my experiences in Baptist Hospital, I am sharing them.

In late 1913, before the first permanent structure of the young Baptist Hospital was completed, the late Dr. M. L. Flynt (whose splendid sons are Meridian physicians), having returned from special study at Tulane just in time to save my life from the then-dreaded "White Swelling" (Osteomyelitis is the proper medical term), performed life-saving surgery in the little South-Mississippi town in which I lived. Thereafter, feeling that I must be hospitalized for more surgery and fuller care, he brought me to the young Baptist Hospital in Jackson. Antique buffs will love this: Since, in 1913, cars were few and far between, we rode out from the train station to the hospital in horse-drawn carriage! My first time in Baptist Hospital, therefore, was in its original frame building.

Doctors Shands and Wall contributed their surgical skills in a series of operations. Miss Sallie Stamps, the remarkable "head nurse," and her helpers — some of them staying through nights after their duties had been completed, when my life hinged precari-

ously between life and death — were literally God's angels in uniform; even the picturesque and lovable orderly — and — maid — of — all — services, "Aunt Matt," stayed overnight repeatedly to help in the life-saving ministrations. And I say with eternal gratitude that those wonderful long-ago people saved my life and because of the total ministry of our Baptist Hospital, I have had the many years since.

Nine other times, including a five-day sojourn in December of 1975, I have been a patient there and have always come away healed in body refreshed in spirit, and increasingly grateful to this "gallant lady."

In the wider scope of memory, think of the multiple thousands who were born there and who have blessed our world. Think of the other thousands whose lives were saved or strengthened on lengthened there, to the joy of their families and to the benefit of their world. Think of the thousands who waited anxiously in hallways and were hospitalized and who received strength from the Christian character of the hospital. Think, to, of others whose last earthly "station stop" was in the warmth of love and care of our Baptist Hospital. If all the voices of grateful recipients of the hospital's ministry could be heard simultaneously, their sounds of praise and gratitude would be heard around the world!

But this gallant lady isn't thinking of retiring! She is just moving into a new plant, with even more wonderful equipment, taking with

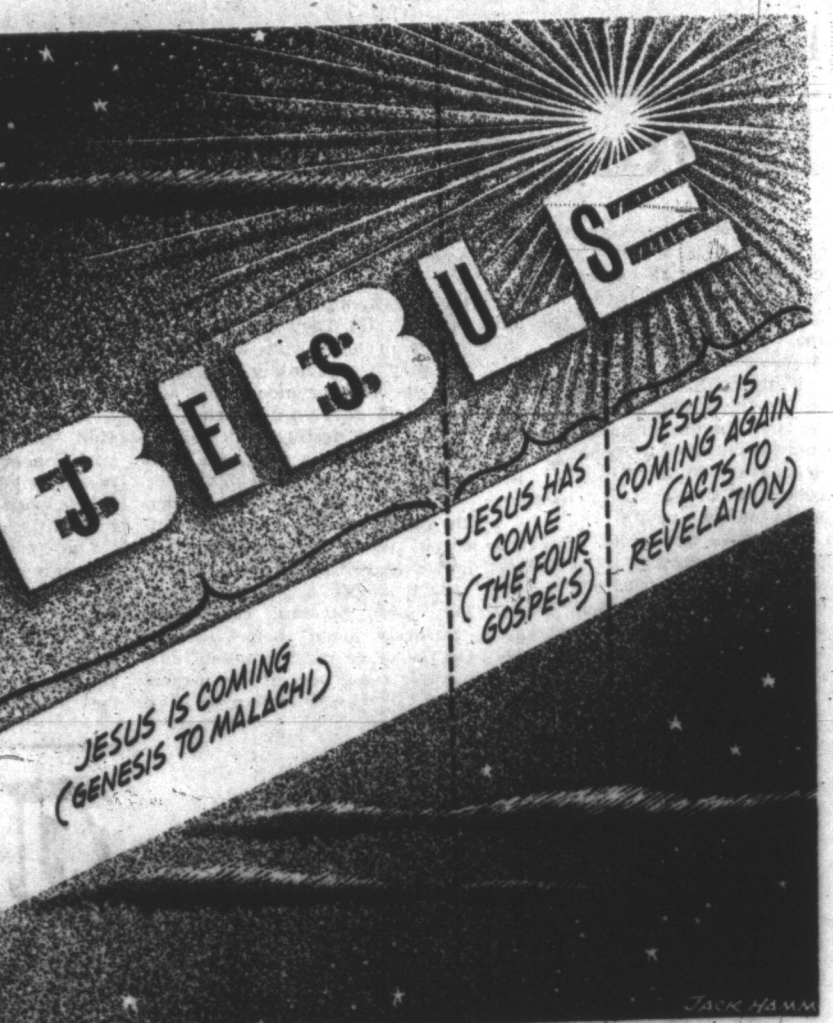
her, in full force, the spirit of Christian compassion which glorifies her healing ministry. During January, she will open wide the doors of this gleaming new plant with 600 beds and "out-of-this-world" facilities for diagnosis and treatment. Nowhere in our nation can a patient be surer of the finest in facility and care than in our wonderful new Baptist Hospital in Jackson.

And what is this gallant lady planning to do with her "old outfit"? Administrator Paul J. Pryor, his staff and hospital trustees, having distinguished themselves for innovative and creative thinking and planning, are already exploring all possible good uses of the older plant; and, though I am not aware of their counsel and plans, I know these splendid leaders well enough to know that the older plant will be put to some use which will continue the 65-year tradition of Baptist Hospital to minister in every possible way to the needs of the community and state. You can count on that for sure.

So, to this gallant lady of 65 years, a salute of love and gratitude for your heroic past, and this prediction for your future: The best of life is yet to be!

On The MORAL SCENE...

CRIME CLOCK — The 1974 Uniform Crime Reports for the United States, issued by Clarence M. Kelly, Director of the FBI, reveals the following statistics: 19 serious crimes are committed each minute and one violence crime occurs every 23 seconds. The rate of other



THERE'S A CONTINUING STAR

THE BAPTIST FORUM

Minister Needed In Germany

Dear Sir:

Any minister feeling God's leadership to serve American military personnel overseas, there is a need for a pastor at Zweibruecken Baptist Church, Zweibruecken, Germany. Our congregation numbers approximately 140 members from the American military communities in the area. Zweibruecken Baptist Church is a member of the European Baptist Convention (English-language) and is fraternally aligned with the Southern Baptist Convention.

For further information write: Mrs. Lois McBrayer, Secretary, Pulpit Committee; 25 CES, Box 432; APO New York 09860.

First, Pontotoc Deserved Special Comment

Dear Sir:

Were you afraid to comment on the greatest victory of them all? I think almost three times your goal deserved some special comment.

I'm not a member of this church, but if I were I would wonder what kind of a staff you have down there!

Wallace Henry
1307 Marquette
Tupelo, MS

NOTE: The writer refers to First Church, Pontotoc's Lottie Moon victory reported in last week's Record. He is right! Giving almost triple the amount of the goal (Goal: \$6,000; Gifts: \$15,000) is really something to comment about, and this certainly should have been done.

Discusses Needs In Wyoming

Dear Editor:

I would like to share an extreme mission need from the Northern Plains, to inform your readers of a real need in Wyoming and other parts of this mission field.

Wyoming has many missions and churches that have no buildings. Some meet in Seventh-Day Adventist church buildings, some in stores, some in homes and many missions could be started if there were only a meeting place. Wyoming is not like the south. There is a great shortage of houses and buildings to begin missions. We now have need of four such places of worship and could use more.

The most practical building for the time of growing a mission into a church would be mobile chapels. The initial cost of a mobile chapel is about twenty thousand dollars. This could be a mission project of churches, associations or individuals who are interested in the work of the West.

Anyone who would want more information could contact Ken Jerome, pastor of College Heights Baptist Church, P. O. Box 4117, Casper, Wyoming 82601, who is vice-chairman of the Wyoming area.

Thank you for your interest in missions.

Ken Jerome, Pastor

criminal activities in 1974 was: one murder every 26 minutes; one forcible rape every 10 minutes; one aggravated assault every 70 seconds; one robbery every 71 seconds; one burglary every 10 seconds; one larceny-theft every 6 seconds; and one motor vehicle theft every 31 seconds. Crime in the United States 1974, Nov. 17, 1975, p. 9.



Baptist Returns To Pulpit After Being Horsemipped

BOWLING GREEN, Va. May 1, 1771 —(BP)—It was a beautiful spring Sunday. The worship service began peacefully enough as the Baptist minister, John Waller, announced the opening song.

But Waller was apprehensive as he saw three men approaching. It was the parson of the state church in the parish, his clerk, and the sheriff.

The 18th Century Baptist preacher had already felt the heel of the established church. Three years earlier he had spent 43 days in prison for preaching Baptist doctrines. But he was not prepared for the outrage which was to follow.

While the congregation sang, the parson stepped up on the platform with Waller and flipped the pages of the hymnal with his whip while the Baptist attempted to keep his finger on the selection.

Ignoring the disturbance, Waller next attempted to lead the opening prayer. As he prayed, the parson repeatedly stuck the butt of his whip in Waller's mouth.

Seeing that the parson's attempts to halt the service were futile, the clerk then stepped up on the stage, seized Waller, dragged him away from the pulpit, and delivered him to the sheriff.

The sheriff, doubtless aware that their intrusion was a lawless affront, remained some distance away from the congregation. But when Waller was dragged before him by the clerk, the law of Caroline County went into action without the formality of a trial.

The sheriff unlimbered a horsewhip and in a rage gave the helpless preacher about 20 lashes. When the ordeal was ended, Waller was covered with blood.

Still the minister of the state church was not through. He gave the Baptist minister a second lashing of verbal abuse before the trio left the meeting.

As for John Waller, he picked himself up, found that he was still able to stand and walk, and returned to his pulpit. His hearers agreed afterward that it was one of the most powerful messages he ever delivered.

As long as the Baptist message is being preached in Virginia by men like John Waller, it is small wonder that fire of persecution serve only to refine it. (Prepared for Baptist Press by the Southern Baptist Historical Commission, Nashville.)

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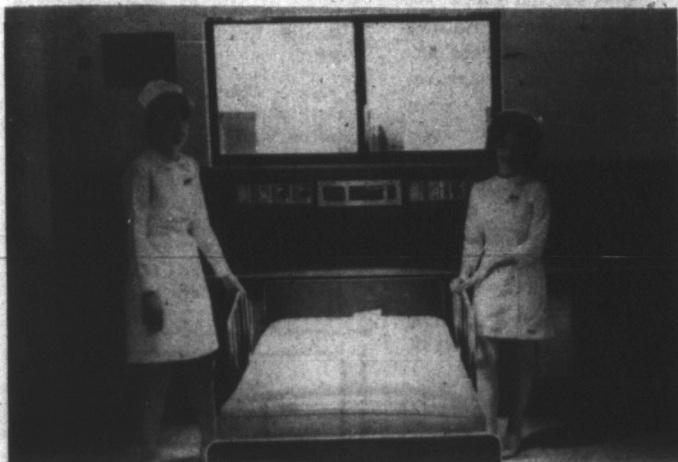
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New Medical Center Views

Thursday, January 22, 1976

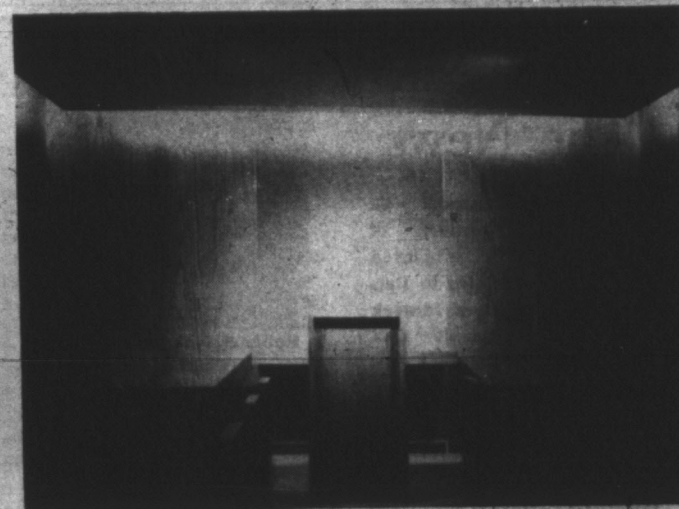
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Alongside each bed in the coronary-care unit is equipment providing continuous close observation of each patient.



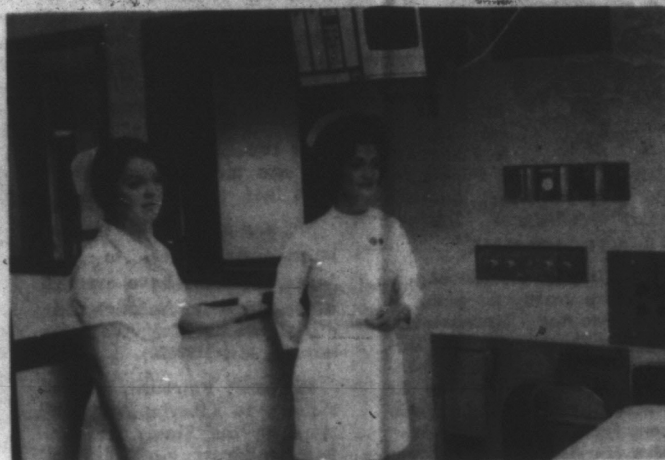
One of the center's many strategically-located Nurses' Station units. In the background, two treatment rooms specifically for heart patients.



The new chapel in the new Mississippi Baptist Medical Center is shown in the photo above.



This is one of 19 operating rooms in the medical center's huge surgical suite.



A view of the intensive-care unit.



Rev. Gordon Shamburger, right, chaplain at the new Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, visits with two chaplain interns. They are, left to right, Rev. Doug Simmons and Rev. George Kessler.



This sterilizer unit is a feature of the shock room, in the emergency area, where patients are treated for shock. From left: Mrs. Brenda Miles, R.N., Mrs. Frances Barnhill, R.N., and chief orderly Bill Hunt, who is the medical center's employee with the longest record of service—over 46 years.



This automatic chest unit in radiology takes pictures of the chest which emerge — already processed — in 90 seconds.



Blood for the center's Blood Bank is stored and protected in this refrigerator.



Business office personnel operate computerized keyboards for speedy flow of data in admitting and discharging patients.



A view of the central-processing area of the Materials Management Department.



Whirlpool baths and tubs of the physical therapy area of the new medical center are shown above.

Names In The News

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel G. (Sam) Shepard, formerly of Tupelo, recently employed missionary associates to Portugal, have begun a 14-week orientation program at Calaway Gardens (address: P. O. Box 535, Pine Mountain, Ga. 31822).

Dr. James Selater, assistant professor of music at Mississippi College, has recently had several works premiered at concerts. On December 13, Coventry Variations was given its first performance at the State Band Clinic in Biloxi. Dr. Selater also composed the music for the new movie Mississippi College: Service to God and Man, which was recently released and is now being shown around the state as part of the college's 150th anniversary year celebration. On November 7 Gerald Claxton, tenor and Patricia Walston, piano, performed the premiere of Songs of Time and Passing, a cycle based on the poems of Emily Dickinson. On August 15, the 8th Air Force Band premiered a march commissioned by them entitled the Mighty Eighth. The concert was held in Hot Springs, Ark.



Hollis B. Nabors, left, chairman of deacons of First Church, Sardis, presents G. C. "Bill" Cox a check for a tour of the Holy Land. Mr. Cox has been pastor at Sardis for about two years. During that time the church has shown a steady growth financially and in membership.

L. B. Atchison, director of missions for Covington and Jeff Davis Associations, is author of an article on laymission involvement in January issue of The Deacon, entitled, "The Commission of the Crossroads Church."

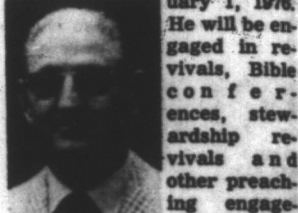
Rev. Erwin Crawford was ordained to the gospel ministry church, Hattiesburg, on December 7. David Summers, deacon at Antioch (Greene) delivered the charge to the candidate. Rev. Troy Smith, pastor of East Salem (Greene) delivered the charge to the church. Rev. Wayne Kite, pastor of Beacon Church (Lebanon) preached the ordination sermon. Mr. Crawford is pastor of Antioch (Greene) and is currently a student at William Carey College.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Long, missionaries to Belgium, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: c/o Mr. L. D. Long, Rte. 1, Box 7, Citronelle, Ala. 36522).

James Beasley on January 15 began his fourth year on the staff of First, Crystal Springs, as minister of music and youth. Rev. A. Estus Mason is pastor.

Curtis Rasberry and Larry Chittam were recently ordained as deacons at North Greenwood Church, Greenwood, Dr. Walter Yeldell, pastor.

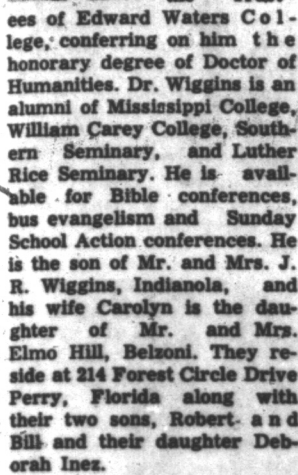
Dr. Eugene N. Patterson resigned as assistant to the president of Mobile College on January 1, 1976.



He will be engaged in revivals, Bible conferences, stewardship revivals and other preaching engagements and can be reached at Post Office Box 11, Fairhope, Alabama 36532 (telephone 928-5184, Fairhope, Alabama).

The Baptist Record has received a memorial poem of tribute to Roger Harrison who died on October 27, 1975. It is signed "Grandmother Harrison" and was mailed to the Record by Mrs. R. L. Harrison, Sr. of Route 2, Weason. Mrs. Harrison writes that Roger was a member of Mission Hill Baptist Church.

Rev. Robert E. Wiggins, pastor of Burton Church, Perry, Florida, was honored December 12, at B. F. Lee Theological Seminary, Edward Waters College, Jacksonville, Florida, for Noteworthy Service in Total Humanitarian Field, by the Trustees of Edward Waters College, conferring on him the honorary degree of Doctor of Humanities. Dr. Wiggins is an alumnus of Mississippi College, William Carey College, Southern Seminary, and Luther Rice Seminary. He is available for Bible conferences, bus evangelism and Sunday School Action conferences. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Wiggins, Indianola, and his wife Carolyn is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elmo Hill, Belzoni. They reside at 214 Forest Circle Drive Perry, Florida along with their two sons, Robert and Bill and their daughter Deborah Inez.



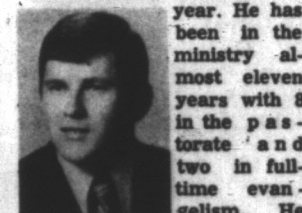
Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Williams, missionaries to the Niger Republic, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 921 Jackson Ave., Columbia, Miss. 39429).

Margaret Fairbairn, missionary to Liberia, has arrived in the States for furlough (address: c/o Mrs. Earl Skinner, Rte. 4, Tylertown, Miss. 39087).

Wayne Malone on January 1 assumed duties as minister of evangelism and youth at Main Street Church, Hattiesburg. Dr. John E. Barnes, Jr., pastor of Native of Picayune, Mr. Malone graduated from University of Southern Mississippi and New Orleans Seminary. He is married to the former Holley Miller of New Orleans. For two summers he worked as a missionary with the Home Mission Board.

Rev. Eli Wiltshire is the new pastor of Paul Church in Tallapoosa County.

Rex Yancey plans to re-enter full-time evangelism in September, 1976. The Blue Mountain College graduate expects to receive the M. Div. degree from New Orleans Seminary in July of this year. He has been in the ministry almost eleven years with 8 in the pastorate and two in full-time evangelism. He has conducted over 110 revival meetings and crusades. He plans to incorporate church renewal into his ministry as a church evangelist. He plans to make his home in Tupelo, after graduation. However, until July he can be contacted at 4436-A Seminary Place, New Orleans, La. 70126 (Phone 1-504-283-7846). He is married and the father of two children.



Mr. and Mrs. John D. Smith missionaries to Indonesia, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 3331 Old Canton Road, Jackson, Miss. 39216).

Steve Corry, former Mississippi pastor and employee in the Baptist Book Store at New Orleans Seminary, has been named manager of the Lutherville, Md., book store. Prior to his board employment, Corry served as pastor of White Sand Church in Poplarville. He is a native of Alabama.

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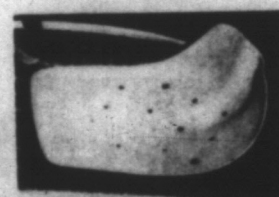


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Richland, Plain, Makes Big Plans For 75th Anniversary Day Celebration

Members of Richland Church at Plain will celebrate the church's 75th anniversary on Sunday, February 1, according to Woodard W. Pearson, member of the Historical Committee in charge of plans for the special program.

Dr. W. A. Whitten, a former pastor at Richland who is now with the U. S. State Department in Washington, D. C., will speak to the adults and young people at 9:45, while children from the eighth grade down are in Sunday School.

At 11 a.m., Dr. John DeFoore, another former pastor at Richland, will preach. Dr. DeFoore, former missionary in Alaska, is now executive director of the Pastoral Care and Counseling Center in Abilene, Texas. A graduate of Southwestern Seminary, he has done additional study at a university in Scotland.

While Dr. DeFoore is preaching to the adults and young people, the children will be eating lunch. Then while the adults and young people are eating lunch at 12,

Prayer Lift For Pastors: January 25-31

Jan. 25
Rev. Jim Hall
Rev. Lowrey Guest
Rev. Robert Jackson
Rev. E. D. Bollinger
Rev. Jimmy Horton
Jan. 26
Rev. Perry Culver
Dr. Edward Gandy
Rev. James Shumate
Rev. Robert Alexander
Rev. Bane Alexander
Jan. 27
Rev. Brooks Turner
Rev. Charles Keel
Rev. Gus Garrett
Rev. Woodrow Young
Rev. Forrest Poindexter
Jan. 28
Rev. Bill Riley
Rev. James Busby
Rev. Billy Hill
Rev. Luther Lindsey
Rev. Lyndle Davis
Jan. 29
Rev. Elvis Vance
Rev. Danny Kelly
Rev. W. C. Johnson
Rev. Russell Young
Rev. Winfred Brasher
Jan. 30
Rev. L. S. Hearn
Rev. Dan Wright
Rev. Don Dickson
Rev. Artis Tutor
Rev. S. E. Bullard
Jan. 31
Rev. Billy Wells
Rev. Billy Floyd
Rev. Sam Higdon
Rev. J. C. Bass
Rev. R. A. Coulter

Children's Church will be in progress.

The Fairchild Evangelism Team of Moselle will be in charge of the service for Children's Church. Rev. Fairchild is a magician and a preacher. His wife, Molly, and daughters, Ruth and Susie, are ventriloquists.

The barbecue to be served for lunch is to be prepared by the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce. Rev. Paul

Services Held For Mrs. Donnell In Blue Mountain

On January 9, memorial services were held in Blue Mountain for Mrs. A. M. Donnell (Lottie Palmer), known affectionately as "Miss Lottie."

Services were held in the sanctuary of Lowrey Memorial Baptist Church, near the edge of the Blue Mountain College campus, with the pastor, Dr. M. Douglas Clark, officiating. Dr. Clark compared the beauty and brightness of the day to the blue of Mrs. Donnell's eyes, the cheerful and optimistic spirit she always shared with others, and her helpfulness to Blue Mountain College, her alma mater, her church, Lowrey Memorial, and to civic causes in Blue Mountain.

Mrs. Donnell served the Blue Mountain College Alumnae Association as treasurer for 47 years. Her two daughters, Marjorie Donnell Easterly of Danville, Kentucky, and Alice Donnell Guelker of Austin, Texas, and her older son, Dr. A. M. Donnell, Jr., also of Austin, Texas, are graduates of Blue Mountain College. The younger son, George F. Donnell of Springfield, Missouri, is a former business office accountant for the college.

The husband of Mrs. Donnell, A. M. Donnell, Sr., served as head of the Science Department of Blue Mountain College for forty years. At the same time he was church clerk at Lowrey Memorial Church, deacon, and town clerk for many years. Mrs. Donnell assisted her husband as Church Clerk. Her late father, C. F. Palmer, served as church clerk for many years.

At her husband's death, Mrs. Donnell continued as church clerk until October, 1973. The resolution drawn up by the church on her retirement from that service was read by her pastor during the memorial service.

The Blue Mountain College column writer honored Mrs. Donnell in January, 1962, by writing a front-page dedication for that issue of the National Alumnae Bulletin. During the Centennial Celebration held at the college, on March 8 and 9, 1974, Mrs. Donnell was chosen one of seven honorees, "ALUMNAE OF THE

B. Williamson, Jr., pastor, states that at least 1000 people are expected for lunch.

At 1 p.m., David Miller, former minister of music at Richland, and the Plainmen Quartet will sing. Then former pastors and music directors will be recognized.

At the evening service, Rev. M. Ray Campbell, formerly pastor of Richland for ten years, and presently pastor of East Clemson Church, Clemson, S. C., will preach.

Richland Church was a mission of Steens Creek (now First, Florence) and was organized as a church February 4, 1901, with 19 charter members. Dr. Eugene Farr of Clinton is writing a church history.

Others of the Historical Committee in charge of the day's plans are M. W. Steen, I. Jay Broome, Mrs. Zenith Lewis, Mrs. Ted Hanson, and Mrs. Herman Evans.

The church now has 1429 total members, 1075 resident members, Sunday school attendance of 500, eleven on the church staff, and eight buses. A new sanctuary was completed in 1974.

An attempt has been made to contact every former pastor, every former minister of music, and every former member. Mr. Pearson states that employees at the Baptist Building are also invited.

Language Missions Consultant Assigned To Nashville

NASHVILLE (BP) — Ramon Martinez, language missions coordinator for the Miami Baptist Association since 1973, has been assigned as consultant in language materials for Southern Baptist Convention agencies in Nashville.

Martinez is a missionary under appointment by the language missions department of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Atlanta.

Oscar Romo, director of the language missions department, said Martinez' new assignment "is an effort to assist the agencies headquartered in Nashville in meeting needs of the various language culture groups in the United States."

Mrs. Martinez, also under appointment by the language missions department, is a graduate of California Baptist College and has a master of religious education degree from Golden Gate Seminary. She is a native of Cruces, Cuba.

YEAR." Copies of the Special Centennial Citation were mailed to her in Austin, Texas, where she made her home with and near two families of her children.

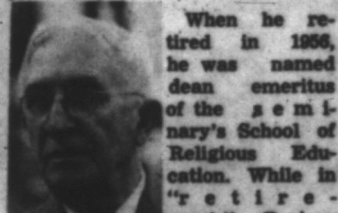
The mother of Mrs. Donnell, Alice Cossitt Palmer, was the only member of Blue Mountain College graduating class of 1881. Tipah County relatives who were as close as a brother and two sisters are also survivors of Lot-

J. M. Price, Pioneer Baptist Educator, Dies In Texas

FORT WORTH (BP) — John M. Price, 81, pioneer Southern Baptist educator, died January 12 in a Fort Worth hospital. His death followed a brief illness.

Price, a native of Kentucky, came to Fort Worth, Tex., in 1915 to establish the School of Religious Education at Southwestern Seminary, the first of its kind in the United States.

"During his 42-year tenure with the seminary, Price pioneered in numerous curriculum developments, which have become benchmarks in the field of religious education," a seminary spokesman said. "Among those courses were church recreation, religious drama; church library work, church finance, and religious journalism."



When he retired in 1956, he was named dean emeritus of the seminary's School of Religious Education. While in "retirement," Price was a visiting professor at Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Tex., where he helped to establish a School of Religious Education. He later was a visiting professor at Howard Payne University, Brownwood, Tex., and at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

While in his 80's Price was still conducting training courses for Sunday School teachers and leaders of Southern Baptist churches throughout the country.

His thirst for education led him to earn six degrees from various colleges, including Th. D. and Ph.D. degrees from Southern Seminary. He was awarded honorary degrees from Baylor University and California Baptist College.

Price authored or co-authored 13 books. His two most notable: "Jesus: A Teacher" (1946) and "Vital Problems in Christian Living" (1942) have become standard study course books among Southern Baptists, a seminary spokesman said.

He is survived by his wife Mabel of Fort Worth, two sons, a daughter and eight grandchildren.

Funeral services were at Gambrell Street Baptist Church, Fort Worth, with burial in Fort Worth's Laurel Land Cemetery.

tie Palmer Donnell. These are Mrs. Brougher Palmer Medford and Miss Edith Palmer of Blue Mountain and The Honorable Fred B. Smith of Ripley.

Two friends of Mrs. Donnell and her family, May Hall Buchanan, organist, and Nancy Ellis Robertson, soloist, presented special music at the service.

BBI Alumni To Meet In Jackson

Mississippi alumni of Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville, Fla., will hold their biannual meeting in Jackson on February 3, during the Evangelism Conference. They will meet at the Bonanza Sirloin Pit on I-55 North that Tuesday, at 12 noon, for a dutch treat luncheon.

The speaker will be the newly appointed assistant to the president at BBI, Keith Vaughn.

Rev. Ben Bennett, pastor of Calvary, Yazoo City, and president of the state alumni association, states that all alumni of BBI in Mississippi are invited.

Central To Observe Layman's Day Jan. 25

Central Church, Brookhaven will observe "Layman's Day" January 25. The day will begin with a Men's Breakfast at 7 a.m. with Rev. Roy Smith, BSU Director at Co-Lin Junior College, as guest speaker.

The men will fill the choir and furnish special music under the direction of Mike Grim, minister of music, during the morning service. Guest speaker will be Jim Dixon of McComb, a former professional trumpet player, presently a carpet salesman and a member of Central Church, McComb.

On Sunday evening three laymen of the church will speak. Rev. H. Glen Schilling is pastor.

Revival Dates

Harrisburg, Tupelo: January 25-26; One Way Revolution Crusade; Tommy and Diane Winders of Tupelo (this is their home church), evangelists; Clebe and Deanna McClary of South Carolina, special guests (Clebe, a Vietnam veteran who was shot seven times, has appeared on several occasions with Billy Graham; he and Deanna have traveled in 48 states sharing their faith in Christ); a Tommy Winders Evangelism Banquet is to be held January 23, with Tom Lester (Eb of "Green Acres") and Clebe and Deanna McClary as speakers; Dr. Robert Hamblin, pastor.

Jackson Center To Recognize Service Volunteers

The Jackson Voluntary Action Center has set a goal to make the Jackson Metropolitan area aware of the vast number of volunteers who give their service to the community.

To help achieve this goal, they are sponsoring Volunteer Recognition Week, January 25-31.

The Jackson Voluntary Action Center will have 10,000 distinctive buttons to distribute to anyone who has performed a volunteer service in the area during 1975. The button will feature a blue feather, symbol of their campaign "Salute the Wearer of the Blue Feather" during Volunteer Recognition Week.

Jesus Involved In Conflict

By Wm. J. Fallis
Matthew 1-12

When you think of the wonderful things Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount and of his compassion in healing so many people, it may be hard to realize that some persons feared and hated him.

Surely, someone with his spirit should have been accepted or admired by everyone. No. His commitment to a righteous God and his concern for disadvantaged people made him unpopular with those who were exploiting the people and disobeying God. Unless we admit the reality of that conflict, we run the risk of misinterpreting Jesus, of ignoring his distinctiveness and his refusal to be just a popular religious hero. The road that ended at Calvary began when Jesus contradicted the traditional interpretation of the law.

The Lesson Explained PHARISEES ACCUSE JESUS' DISCIPLES (vv. 1-8)

Jesus and his disciples were walking through a grainfield on the sabbath, with some Pharisees following them. Casually, the hungry disciples exercised a right stated in Deuteronomy 23:25, but when they rolled the heads of grain in their hands to get rid of the husks, the Pharisees called out to Jesus. He might be a popular teacher, they were thinking, but he either did not know the law or refused to reprimand his disciples for disobeying it by their

reaping and threshing on the sabbath. They were really finding fault with Jesus.

JESUS IS LORD OF THE SABBATH (vv. 3-8)

Jesus' response had several points. In verses 3-4 he reminded the Pharisees of the story of David in 1 Samuel 21:1-6 when that hero was being hounded by King Saul. David and his men ate the hallowed bread displayed on a table in the tabernacle. It was necessary to violate the law to satisfy an urgent hunger. Because David was a national hero, the king who brought the Jews to their golden era, the Pharisees could not blame him for eating when he was hungry. Then in verse 5 Jesus reminded them that even the priests violate the sabbath rule against work when they kill and prepare the sacrifices on the sabbath. Within the Jewish religion itself the worship functions were more significant than sabbath restrictions.

Before the Pharisees could recover from those arguments, Jesus added, "There is here One who is greater than the Temple" (Weymouth). Then he accused them of not understanding Hosea 6:6, which says that God prefers mercy to sacrifice. But the climax in Jesus' defense of his disciples came in verse 8. Although he did not use the pronoun "I," the phrase "Son of man" was his favorite description of himself. He made a staggering claim — that he as a young Jewish teacher had authority to regulate and interpret the sabbath.

BETTER TO HELP THAN MERELY OBEY (vv. 9-14)

Soon after the Pharisees enter-

without measure and calls us to himself on the same basis.

James and John made the request for the opportunity to sit one on the right and the other on the left of Jesus in the Kingdom to come. This request of honor reflects their selfish interest and their misunderstanding of the nature of Jesus' Kingdom.

First they did not understand that the throne of Jesus was a cross. The places at Jesus' right and left hand are by nature not such as may be arbitrarily assigned or awarded. Jesus himself could not grant them for they belonged to those for whom they had been prepared. Greatness is measured by sacrificial service. The greatest is the one who is servant. This is a reversal of the world's standard. Jesus' glory was the cross.

Second, they did not understand the role of the Son of Man in terms of sacrificial service. The Son of Man had come in the lowly form of a servant and would give his life as a ransom for many. This point of his role was a rebuke of the self-centered and self-assertive ambition of the disciples. They can find life only in losing it and live only by dying.

Third, they would drink of the cup' is a prediction of Jesus. In the years to come, James and John entered into his suffering. James was the first of the twelve to suffer martyrdom. John lived a long life, ending up on the Isle of Patmos for preaching the gospel of Christ. They may have been selfish in their request but they proved faithful to their challenge by Jesus.

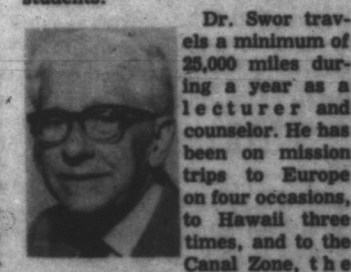
Christians should serve Christ primarily for the sake of love, not mainly for the sake of reward. Our model of service is Jesus. By following his example we can be redemptively involved in the work of God. Love is its own best reward.

ed the synagogue, they noticed the man with the withered hand, and they decided to put Jesus to the test. They would have admitted that emergency cases might be helped on the sabbath, but any other assistance would be a violation. Jesus did not say yes or no, but he set them in an imaginary situation and asked what they would do. Without waiting for an answer, he forced them to see that a man is more valuable than a sheep. At once he asked the man to stretch out his hand, and it became strong like the other.

The Pharisees knew they were caught in his logic; they could not afford to claim publicly that one of their sheep was more important than a man with a crippled hand. They wanted to keep on hiding behind their narrow interpretation of the sabbath law — thus to avoid helping others. But Jesus insisted by his deed that helping others was more important than self-righteous obedience. No wonder the Pharisees called a conference to describe how they could destroy that disturber.

Dr. Swor To Be At MC For Counseling With Students

Dr. Chester E. Swor of Jackson, native of Mississippi and one of the nation's foremost student counselors, will be on the Mississippi College campus January 26-29 for personal counseling with students.



Dr. Swor travels a minimum of 25,000 miles during a year as a lecturer and counselor. He has been on mission trips to Europe on four occasions, to Hawaii three times, and to the Canal Zone, the Republic of Panama and Canada.

Trips are contemplated to South America and the Orient. Dr. Swor is the author or co-author of eight books.

In addition to his counseling sessions on campus, Dr. Swor will also be the speaker for Monday and Wednesday morning chapel programs and visit several student club meetings.

He will also be leading Spiritual Renewal Days Jan. 25-26 at First Church, Clinton, assisted by Scott Cook of Jackson.

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Jackson, Miss.

Rev. Harry Gipson Preaching In India

Rev. Harry Gipson, pastor of Providence Church Pearl, left Jan. 6 for India, on a mission trip. He, along with Rev. Joe Royalty of the E. J. Daniels Crusade Team and other preachers are holding a crusade there. They expect to be there three weeks plus about a week traveling time.

Mr. Gipson has been pastor at Providence a year and three months. He was formerly pastor at Gum Springs Church.

He makes his home in Pearl with his wife Glenda, and four year old son, Scott.



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Located between Tupelo and New Albany, Mississippi, just off Highway 78. Fifty acres of wooded forests, 5 cabins, new softball field, kitchen and eating area, chapel, 5-acre fishing lake, nature trail, swimming pool, and other recreational activities. Full-time caretaker is now at the camp. For further information, call First Baptist Church, New Albany, Miss. W. F. Evans, Pastor, Phone 534-5812.

The Bible encyclopedia



FURMAN ESCAPES FROM BRITISH—Charleston, S. C., 1777—Richard Furman, outstanding Baptist patriot, escaped from the British soldiers who sought to capture him because they feared his prayers and talents exercised on behalf of liberty. Cornwallis put a price on his head, but when the British marched on South Carolina, Furman fled to North Carolina and to Virginia. — (Used with permission of the Historical Commission, S.B.C.)

Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work

What About Rewards?

By Bill Duncan
Matthew 19:16-30:34

After Jefferson Davis fled from Richmond, three wagons loaded with confederate paper money, were captured on the edge of the mountain. With amazement, the handful of Union soldiers gazed at bills — bills piled up like bales of cotton. Being cold and cheerless, they pitched quilts that night for stakes. They played for \$100,000 a game — confederate money. The next morning, one soldier bought a gray mule for \$300,000. Another soldier paid \$100,000 for someone to put his shoe on it. Meanwhile, the soldiers were cold, hungry, and houseless. Unless money.



Many people set their hearts on rewards of money or the desire for money. Most of the time when they get their reward it is useless.

Would you be willing to exchange your material wealth for eternal life? A rich young man asked Jesus, "What good deeds must I do to inherit eternal life?" The young man told Jesus that he had kept all the commandments. But Jesus knew that he valued his material possessions too much. So Jesus commanded him to sell his good, give to the poor and follow him. To the regret of Jesus the young man said no and then turned away.

Can a rich man go to heaven? It does not matter how much money you have. The determining factor is faith — complete dependency

and trust in Jesus Christ for salvation. Money tends to cause a person to believe that he can do it himself.

The one factor that confused the disciples was that most Jews believed that money was sign of reward by God. If a man was rich he was greatly loved by God. So Peter said, "If the rich young man cannot go to heaven, who can?" Jesus answers by saying that salvation and righteousness are possibilities only to God's power. A poor man can be as enslaved to money as a rich man. God looks on the heart not, the bank account.

Peter then asked a question that was more pagan than Christian. "What then shall we have?" is literally, what then is for us?

Jesus gave a patient answer, yet one which was weighed with both judgment and promise, warning and assurance. He first assured Peter that God would amply reward his people. In the new world the disciple could be assured of gains a hundredfold greater than the costs of discipleship. In the new world the Son of man sits on his throne and the apostles will share in the reign with Christ. Although the rewards of discipleship are certain, there will be many surprises. There will be reversals of the present. Many who seemed to be first will prove to be last, and many last ones will be first.

Rewards will be greatest to those not seeking reward, least to those concerned for reward. One will get all that he deserves; but if his concern is "What's for me?" his reward will be small

—if any.

Promise of reward may be the condition of action, the ground or premise of strength, but reward is never action's goal. Reward is always added to the nature of the act, not a direct result of an action.

Jesus caricatures all reward-hunting by blowing up the promise-to-inconceivable proportions: in return for one mother forsaken, a hundred mothers! If one leaves home and land in the age to come eternal life, none of these is what he intends here and now. His present act is perfectly obedient and thoroughly sacrificial, not intent on recompense. One acts for the sake of Christ, not for the sake of a heavenly mansion. The principle of losing life in order to find it is shown in the promise of reward. The parable is about a householder who gave the same wages to all laborers. It is a defense of the free grace of the gospel against some who grumble about the householder for paying the last and the first the same.

This is a rebuke against the bargaining spirit of the rich young man and in Peter also who grumbles at the householder. Both were interested in themselves. Jesus called for followers who would ask for no bargain and whose concern was not for what they would get. The disciple, like the bargainer, will get all that is due him, but the bargainer will always be dissatisfied with what he gets. The greater rewards are for those who seek no reward. Jesus seeks those who ask only the opportunity to work in the vineyard. Jesus just offers himself to us

Memorial Fund Established In

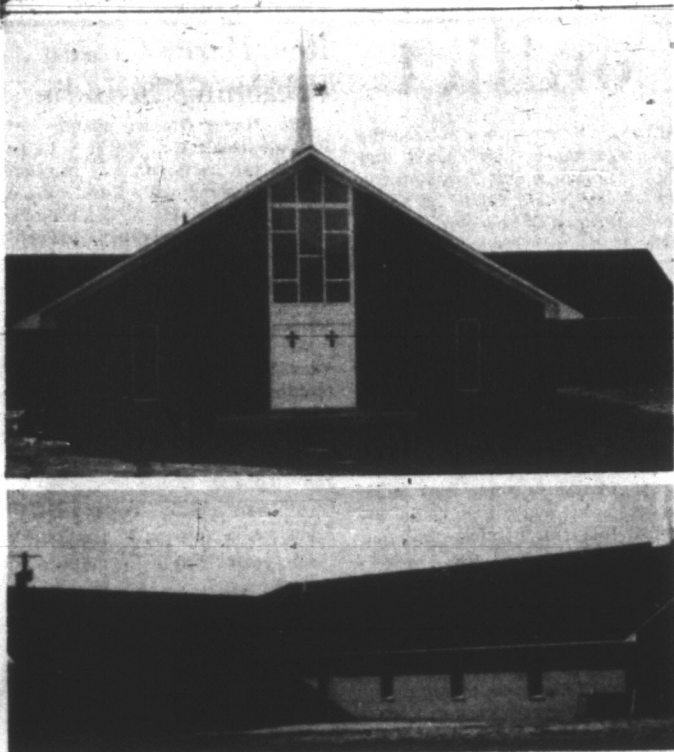
Memory Of Bradley Lane Bowman

A Memorial Fund known as the Lane Bowman of Route 1, Brook-



When in Memphis come to Union Avenue Baptist Church

A. T. Walker
Retires After 41



West Drew Dedicates Sanctuary

West Drew Church, Sunflower County, dedicated a new sanctuary on January 11. Rev. V. L. Montgomery, Jr., pastor, brought the dedication message, assisted by Rev. Elvis Vance, former pastor. Special music was presented; lunch was served at the church. The new building also includes fellowship hall, modern kitchen, and thirteen Sunday School rooms. The opening service in the new building was conducted by the pastor on December 28, 1975.

Teel Leaving Mission Field To Join Stewardship Commission

NASHVILLE (BP) — James O. Teel Jr., who is completing 20 years as a Southern Baptist missionary to Argentina, will join the Southern Baptist Stewardship Commission here in early February as assistant director of Cooperative Program promotion.

Teel, 48, will assist Michael L. Speer, the commission's associate director and director of Cooperative Program promotion. His duties will include assisting in planning, developing and coordinating promotion of the SBC's unified budget, assisting in public relations and

working with SBC agencies and media in developing content of editorial materials about the Cooperative Program and what it accomplishes.

A native of Electra, Tex., Teel has been serving as press representative for the Argentine Baptist Mission (organization of missionaries) and holds its power of attorney, a duty which involves caring for the mission's property and looking after its legal affairs.

He has also served as promoter of radio and television evangelism for the Argentine Baptist Convention, coordinator of evangelistic campaigns and pastor during his tenure as a foreign missionary.



Eastwood Gives Reception For Sudduths

Eastwood Church, Indiana, held a reception for Rev. and Mrs. Ed Sudduth January 11 on the occasion of their leaving to serve as associate pastor of Fairview Church. As a token of appreciation for what the Sudduths have done to help Eastwood for the past thirteen months, the church gave them a silver tray with the inscription, "EASTWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH, 1974-1976." The reception committee was composed of wives of the active deacons, with Mrs. Laban Vineyard as chairman. Pictured are Rev. D. C. McAtee, (left) pastor of Eastwood as he presents the tray to Mr. Sudduth. Mrs. McAtee (right) and Mrs. Sudduth look on.

Church Training Group Compiles Pictorial History Of Church

The Middle Adult Church Training class at Friendship Church, Grenada, at the suggestion of class member, Billy Meredith, has compiled and presented to the church a complete pictorial history.

On Sunday, September 1, 1967, Friendship Mission met in a cotton gin and under the direction of Rev. R. B. Smith, then pastor at Hardy and Rev. Wayne Black, then pastor at Holcomb, organized as a new church.

After being constituted, Friendship moved from the gin to a storehouse, where services were held until a building was erected in 1968.

The church has grown from the original 52 who had a dream for a place of worship in their community to a congregation who meets today in a modern church plant adequate to meet the needs of its people.

BBI To Offer Bachelor Of Ministry Degree

The trustees of Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville, Florida, recently met to name the new degree that the school will be conferring on students who complete a four year, 120 semester hour



Bill Wright, at left in picture, Church training director, recently presented the history to the pastor, Rev. Sherman Barnette, right who accepted on behalf of the church.

program of study.

The degree is named the Bachelor of Ministry (B. Min.) and will be awarded the students on completion of their studies in one of three areas — Biblical Studies, Church Music, and Religious Education.

The program will become effective in the fall of 1976.

The diploma program now being offered at the school will not be discontinued. The degree program will be an addition to the present diploma program rather than a replacement.

Devotional

For Better Or Worse

By Clifton Perkins, Director
Church - Minister Relations, MBCB
Jeremiah 2:1-5

In this brief passage Jeremiah lays down the truth that the real you, your spiritual makeup, is changing as time passes by. He pictured the heritage of Judah as that of a bride. But something was radically wrong with the nation. The orange blossoms had been killed by the spiritual freeze of her national life. Judah had departed from her God. "You are become vain," cries Jeremiah.

The message from the prophet's words is this: Life is not static. It doesn't stand still. People change for better or worse as time passes by.

Yes, your spiritual makeup, the real you, is changing as life passes by. You can't stand still. Life must make progress to higher levels or sink lower and lower until it passes away.

There was a reticent and retiring professor who lived the life of a recluse on a certain college campus. One day the business manager of the college went to his home to check the condition of the house and see what repairs needed to be made.

He was shocked at what he found. He saw tattered wallpaper hanging in strips from the walls. Newspapers were pinned over the window frames. "Professor," he said, "why didn't you tell us about the condition of this house?" The professor replied, "Well, you see, it all came on so gradually."

That story is a parable of life. Gradual, and probably unnoticed, change for better or worse is taking place in each one of us as the days go by.

Now that we see that life must progress to higher levels or sink lower and lower until it passes away, an important question arises. What determines whether the change in us will be for better or worse?

Jeremiah's answer to that question is this: "The God you worship." To the people of Judah he said in effect, "You have followed hollow gods and you have become empty souls."

It is profoundly true that you become like the God you worship. The late archbishop William Temple once said, "This world can be saved from political chaos and collapse by one thing only, and that is to worship. For to worship is to quicken the conscience by the holiness of God, to feed the mind with the truth of God, to purge the imagination by the beauty of God, to open the heart to the love of God, and to devote the will to the service of God."

I trust that you and I are becoming better and stronger persons because we worship and serve the eternal God.

Off The Record

A Genius is a fellow who can re-wrap a new shirt and not have any pins left over.

"I'm really glad you could come," said small Jimmy to a guest. "Now Dad can do the trick he said he'd do."

"And what might that be?" asked the lady sweetly.

"Well," said Jimmy, "he said that if you came he'd climb the wall."

"My goodness, you look like my third husband," said the divorcee.

The bachelor inquired: "How many husbands have you had?" "Two," she replied.

A young reporter asked the chic, vibrant elderly woman if she'd mind telling her age.

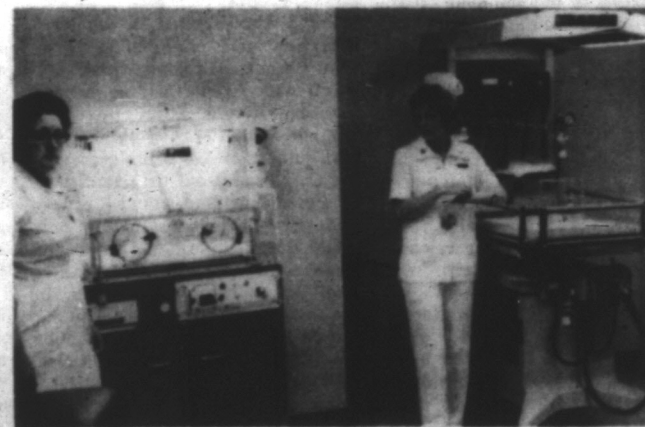
"Not at all," she replied with a twinkle. "I'm plenty-nine."

The Mississippi Baptist Convention

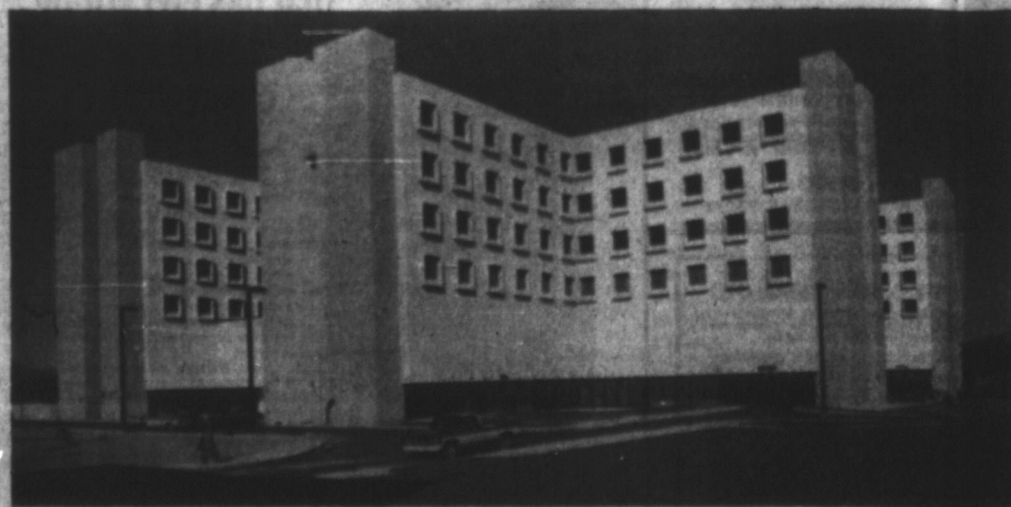
and

The Baptist Record Congratulate

The Mississippi Baptist Hospital Board and The Staff
On The Opening Of Their New Facility



Intensive Care Nursery



MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER
Left two wings - Hospital Front Entrance
Right two Wings - State Street side showing Emergency entrances

Mississippi Baptist Medical Center

Earl Kelly
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Editor